

SENATE BILL 562

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2003 Regular Session
3r1004
CF 3r2318

By: **Senator Middleton**

Introduced and read first time: January 31, 2003

Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Adult Education and Literacy Services - State Appropriation**

3 FOR the purpose of providing for a certain annual State appropriation for certain
4 adult education and literacy services; requiring the Department of Education to
5 submit a certain report to the Governor and the General Assembly on or before
6 a certain date assessing the effectiveness of a certain method for calculating a
7 certain appropriation; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the
8 State appropriation for adult education and literacy services.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Article - Education
11 Section 5-218
12 Annotated Code of Maryland
13 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2002 Supplement)

14 **Preamble**

15 WHEREAS, The economy of Maryland needs an educated workforce to be
16 competitive; and

17 WHEREAS, An estimated 613,640 Maryland adults do not have a high school
18 diploma; and

19 WHEREAS, High school dropouts who earn a high school diploma can earn an
20 extra \$7,000 in annual income; and

21 WHEREAS, The literacy level of a parent is the best predictor of a child's
22 literacy achievement; and

23 WHEREAS, The National Adult Literacy Survey reports that 20% of
24 Marylanders function at the lowest literacy level; and

25 WHEREAS, Maryland provides adult education and literacy services to only 4%
26 of the target population; and

1 WHEREAS, Each year, over 16,000 Maryland adults apply to take the GED test
2 and 45% fail the test due to lack of preparation; and

3 WHEREAS, Over 88,000 foreign-born residents who "do not speak English
4 well" or "at all" entered the State since the last census was taken; and

5 WHEREAS, Over 2,000 adults are on waiting lists for English as a second
6 language instruction; and

7 WHEREAS, The task force appointed by the General Assembly in 2001 studied
8 adult education-related services, outcomes, workforce connections, and funding;

9 WHEREAS, The task force recommended increasing the State investment in
10 adult education services; now, therefore,

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article - Education**

14 5-218.

15 (a) (1) IN THIS SECTION THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
16 INDICATED.

17 (2) "COST OF INSTRUCTION" MEANS THE EXPENDITURES NECESSARY
18 FOR PROVIDING AN INDIVIDUAL WITH LITERACY INSTRUCTION FOR A FISCAL YEAR
19 AND IS CALCULATED BY MULTIPLYING THE COST PER CONTACT HOUR BY 100 HOURS,
20 WHICH IS THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF INSTRUCTIONAL HOURS REQUIRED TO MAKE
21 SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IN LITERACY SKILLS DURING A SEMESTER.

22 (3) "COST PER CONTACT HOUR" MEANS THE COST OF 1 HOUR OF ADULT
23 EDUCATION AND LITERACY INSTRUCTION TO AN INDIVIDUAL STUDENT DURING THE
24 SECOND PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.

25 (4) "ENROLLMENT" MEANS THE NUMBER OF ADULTS REGISTERED IN
26 THE FEDERAL AND STATE ADULT EDUCATION PROGRAM DURING THE SECOND PRIOR
27 FISCAL YEAR IN ACCORDANCE WITH GUIDELINES DOCUMENTED BY THE
28 DEPARTMENT IN THE LITERACY WORKS INFORMATION SYSTEM;

29 (5) "NON-STATE FUNDS" MEANS THE SUM OF THE FEDERAL AND LOCAL
30 FUNDING FOR THE STATE ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAM FROM THE
31 SECOND PRIOR FISCAL YEAR.

32 (6) "STATE SHARE" MEANS THE AMOUNT OF STATE FUNDING FOR
33 ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY PROGRAMS.

34 (B) (1) The Department shall distribute competitive grants for adult
35 education services in accordance with the State Plan for Adult Education and Family
36 Literacy.

1 (2) The grants distributed under this section shall be based on need and
2 performance.

3 (3) Grants under this section may be used for adult education and
4 literacy services, including:

5 (i) GED TESTING AND instruction;

6 (ii) The Maryland Adult External High School Program under §
7 7-205.1 of this article;

8 (iii) English for Speakers of Other Languages;

9 (iv) Family literacy; and

10 (v) Basic skills and literacy instruction.

11 [(b) Funding for the competitive grants under this section shall be as provided
12 in the State budget.]

13 (C) THE STATE SHARE TARGET FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY IN THE
14 STATE IS THE AMOUNT CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

15 (1) MULTIPLY ENROLLMENT BY THE COST OF INSTRUCTION;

16 (2) FROM THE PRODUCT IN ITEM (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION SUBTRACT
17 NON-STATE FUNDS.

18 (D) (1) THE GOVERNOR SHALL INCLUDE AN APPROPRIATION IN THE STATE
19 BUDGET EACH YEAR FOR THE STATE SHARE OF ADULT EDUCATION AND LITERACY
20 WHICH SHALL BE CALCULATED AS INDICATED IN THIS SUBSECTION.

21 (2) FOR FISCAL YEARS 2006 THROUGH 2010, THE STATE SHARE SHALL BE
22 THE FOLLOWING PERCENTAGE OF THE STATE SHARE TARGET:

23 (I) 20 PERCENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2006;

24 (II) 40 PERCENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2007;

25 (III) 60 PERCENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2008;

26 (IV) 80 PERCENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2009; AND

27 (V) 100 PERCENT IN FISCAL YEAR 2010.

28 (E) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND GENERAL
29 ASSEMBLY ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2009, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2-1246 OF
30 THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, ASSESSING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE
31 METHOD FOR CALCULATING THE STATE APPROPRIATION FOR ADULT EDUCATION
32 AND LITERACY SERVICES UNDER THIS SECTION.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take
2 effect July 1, 2003.